

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, UR

SUBJECT: SPACE AGREEMENT: APOLLO-SOYUZ FLIGHT

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM FRUTKIN NASA TO
VERESHCHETIN INTERCOSMOS ASAP JULY 2.

2. "STATEMENT BY SENATOR PROXMIRE FOR RELEASE 6:30 AM JULY
2 WASHINGTON TIME REQUESTS NASA TO POSTPONE APOLLO-SOYUZ
JOINT MISSION UNTIL USSR BRINGS BACK TO EARTH COSMONAUTS NOW
ABOARD SALYUT. IN EXPLAINING REQUEST, PROXMIRE REFERS TO
RECENT TESTIMONY BEFORE HIS APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
QUESTIONING SOVIET ABILITY TO HANDLE TWO MISSIONS AT ONCE
FROM COMMAND POINT OF VIEW.

3. "IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES CONCERNING PROXMIRE STATEMENT,
NASA WILL SAY FOLLOWING:

----"A. ON JUNE 29, SUBSEQUENT TO PROXMIRE SUBCOMMITTEE
TESTIMONY, LUNNEY DISCUSSED WITH BUSHUYEV POSSIBLE EFFECTS
OF CONTINUED MANNED SALYUT MISSION ON ASTP. BUSHUYEV
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ASSURED LUNNEY THAT SOVIETS WILL USE TWO SEPARATE GROUND

CONTROL TEAMS AND CONTROL CENTERS FOR SOYUZ 18/SALYUT 4 AND
ASTP MISSIONS AND THAT ASTP MISSION HAS PRIORITY IF TWO
MISSIONS SHOULD BE SIMULTANEOUSLY WITHIN COVERAGE ZONE OF A
REMOTE USSR TRACKING STATION.

----"B. INDEPENDENT NASA CALCULATIONS INDICATE THAT THE
TWO SOVIET MISSIONS WILL BE IN VIEW OF A SINGLE SOVIET
TRACKING STATION ONLY TWICE DURING ASTP MISSION FOR
INTERVALS OF ABOUT ONE-HALF AND ONE AND ONE-HALF MINUTES.

----"C. NASA HAS CONCLUDED THAT SOYUZ 18/SALYUT 4 MISSION
DOES NOT CONSTITUTE HAZARD TO ASTP." INGERSOLL

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